

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to isolated mesenchymal stromal stem cell (MSSC) that has been differentiated *in vitro* towards, or to, an intervertebral disc (IVD) cell phenotype for use as medicaments. The cells may be used to treat spinal conditions characterized by degeneration of the intervertebral disc. The cells may also be genetically transformed with an exogenous gene coding for a protein that reduces degeneration of an intervertebral disc.